

## Claims

1. Analytical test element for the determination of an analyte in a liquid containing an inert carrier, a detection element and a channel capable of capillary liquid transport which has a sample application opening at one end and a vent opening at the other end of the channel capable of capillary liquid transport, wherein the channel capable of capillary liquid transport is formed at least partially by the carrier and the detection element and extends in the direction of capillary transport from the sample application opening to at least the edge of the detection element that is nearest to the vent opening and wherein a notch is located in one of the surfaces forming the channel capable of capillary liquid transport at the edge of the test element forming the sample application opening so that one side of the edge of the test element forming the sample application opening is at least partially discontinuous and the surface opposite to the notch is exposed.
2. Analytical test element as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the surfaces forming the inner surface of the channel capable of capillary liquid transport is hydrophilized.
3. Analytical test element as claimed in claim 2, wherein the exposed surface opposite to the notch is hydrophilized.

- ~~4. Analytical test element as claimed in one of the claims 2 or 3, wherein the hydrophilization is achieved by use of a hydrophilic material or by coating a less hydrophilic material with a hydrophilic layer.~~
5. Analytical test element as claimed in claim 4, wherein a layer of oxidized aluminium is used for the hydrophilization.
- ~~6. Analytical test element as claimed in one of the claims 1 to 5, wherein the detection element contains all necessary reagents for the detection reaction of the target analyte in the sample as well as optionally auxiliary substances.~~
- ~~7. Analytical test element as claimed in one of the claims 1 to 6, wherein the detection element acts as a filter for particulate sample components.~~
- ~~8. Analytical test as claimed in one of the claims 1 to 7, wherein the channel capable of capillary liquid transport is at least partially formed by the carrier, an inert cover and the detection element wherein the cover and detection element are located on the side of the channel that is opposite to the carrier and are arranged adjacent to one another in such a way that the cover is located on the side facing the sample application opening.~~

A ~~9. Analytical test element as claimed in claim 8, wherein the detection element and the cover abut each other so that the capillary liquid transport is not interrupted at the site of contact of detection element and cover.~~

10. Analytical test element as claimed in claim 9, wherein a flexible inert foil is mounted on the side of the cover that faces the channel capable of capillary liquid transport which extends over the entire length of the cover, covers the entire width of the capillary channel and is at least partially enclosed between the opposing surfaces of the cover and detection element so that the capillary liquid transport does not break down at the site of ~~contact between the detection element and cover~~

A ~~11. Analytical test element as claimed in one of the claims 1 to 10, wherein an intermediate layer is present between the carrier and detection element and optionally the cover which also participates in the formation of the channel capable of capillary liquid transport.~~

12. Analytical test element as claimed in claim 11, wherein the intermediate layer additionally serves to bond the carrier and detection element and ~~optionally the cover.~~

*Fig 4*  
~~13. Use of an analytical test element as claimed in one of the claims 1 to 12 for the determination of an analyte in a liquid.~~

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